

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

NEWS, FACTS, AND GOSSIP.

Newspaper Postage-Inauguration Preparations--The Blair Educational Bill--The Cabinet--North Carolina Items.

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, January 23.--The

Post-Office Committee of the House

to-day agreed to reduce the postage on

newspaper matter from 2 to 1 cent a

pound. The members of the committee

think that this will become a law.

The feeling in Congress is in fact in

favor of giving a free transportation

through the mails for all newspapers.

THE INAUGURATION COMMITTEE

is doing all that it can do to secure

quarters for people who propose to come

to Washington to attend the inauguration.

I do not think that charges for

accommodations will be extravagant,

and yet it looks as if more people will

be here than heretofore on such occasions.

This will be owing to the fact that

the committee of citizens who have

the arrangements in hand are looking to

the accommodation of visitors. They

were visiting to-day, in spite of cold

weather, all the quarters reserved for

strangers here on the 4th of March will

exceed the estimate heretofore announced.

A New York man thinks that

there will be 250,000 people here.

BOGUS INAUGURATION-BALL TICKETS.

There are men, I am informed, who

are going through Virginia and Mary-

land selling bogus tickets with all privi-

leges to the inauguration ball. I am

requested to state that they have no

right to do so.

THE BLAIR EDUCATIONAL BILL.

The event of the session, as far as the

House is concerned, was the debate to-

day on the Hurd resolution. Mr. Hurd

does not think that the Senate has a

right to originate a bill involving an

appropriation such as the Blair educa-

tional bill contains, and his resolution

expressive of his views was called up.

He made a most eloquent speech, but it

was so much more theoretical than practical

that I regretted oratory was thrown

away. Messrs. Hammond of Georgia,

Reed of Maine, and others, opposed

the resolution. Hon. John S. Wise

made a very good speech in opposition

to the position taken by Mr. Hurd.

The tone of the House, as indicated by

the debate on this resolution, was that

the House is decidedly in favor of the

Blair bill. It seemed to be the purpose

of the patrons of the bill to yield time

to Republicans. If a direct vote on

this measure could be reached there is

not the slightest chance of its defeat.

The indications to-day were most en-

couraging for it. The trouble, how-

ever, is that the rules of the House en-

able a small minority at a short session

to defeat the will of a large majority.

SPECULATIONS IN REGARD TO THE

CABINET.

A New Yorker to-day said to me

that he had reasons to believe that one

from his State would be made Secretary

of the Treasury. I thought that the

wish was father to the thought. He

also said that he believed Senators Bay-

ard and Garland would go into the Cab-

inet. I asked him about Mr. Barbour,

and he said to me, "Why are you Vir-

ginians not doing more towards pre-

paring his claims for Postmaster-Gen-

eral?" Soon afterwards I encountered

a Connecticut Democrat, who was per-

fectly certain that his State will be

given a place in the Cabinet. The In-

dian people are confident that ex-Sec-

retary McDonald will be given a posi-

tion. One of the best informed among

them said to-night that he thought he

would be made Secretary of the Interior.

THE WEATHER HERE.

For days has been as frigid as an Arctic

explorer could desire, and the result is

that a number of members of both

houses were out of their seats to-day.

What a pity it is that Congress cannot

meet in Florida in the winter and at

some northern point in the summer.

THE TREATIES.

To-day asked one familiar with the

opinions that prevail in diplomatic cir-

cles what he thought of the treaties.

Said he, "I do not think that one of them will be rat-

ified." I had heard that the Nicara-

guez treaty had a chance.

NORTH CAROLINA ITEMS.

Senator Vance will return here to-

morrow. Representative Cox to-day

participated in the proceedings of the

General Assembly. There were two

hands of music in the procession,

and many of the houses along the route

were decorated with flags.

At the depot the bell was transferred

to a special car constructed by the

Pennsylvania Railroad Company to bear

it and its guard of three officers to the

Exposition. This car is thirty-five feet

long and nine feet and a half wide, one

half of the platform of which is taken

up by enclosed and comfortably fur-

nished quarters for the special police

officers. The bell platform is protected

by a brass railing with posts decorated

with gilded bells. The large frame

upon which the bell is to be secured is

the only work upon the platform of the

car.

The venerable relic was securely

bolted to this frame and then left in full

view. At the top of the frame is the

inscription, "1776--Proclaim Liberty,"

while on each side of the flat-cars are

two clasped hands, with the names of

the two cities, Philadelphia and New

Orleans, on either side. The car was

then run down to the Broad-

street station and attached to the

special train for New Orleans carrying

the Committee of City Councils. A

start was made at 10 P. M. They

expect to reach New Orleans in about

four hours. At 9:55 P. M., Cin-

cinnati at 10:30 A. M. to-morrow;

Louisville at 10:30 A. M. to-morrow;

at 11 A. M. on Monday. At Lancaster,

where the train arrived at noon and

stopped fifteen minutes, a crowd of

3,000 people were assembled to re-

ceive it.

The Oklahoma Boomers.

(By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

CHICAGO, January 23. Dispatches

received say that nothing was done at

Fort Leavenworth yesterday toward

forwarding troops to reinforce General

Hatch against the Oklahoma boomers.

THE POWER OF THE SENATE.

DISCUSSED IN THE HOUSE.

A Resolution of Inquiry as to the Right to

Originate Bills Appropriating the Re-

venue--Debate and Laid on the Table.

WASHINGTON, January 23, 1885.

Senate.

Mr. Garland, from the Committee on

Judiciary, reported favorably, and the

Senate passed, bills removing the politi-

cal disabilities of Gabriel A. Hill and

J. Pembroke Jones, both of Virginia.

The Chair laid before the Senate Mr.

Vest's resolution, heretofore offered, to

authorize the Secretary of the Interior

to ascertain upon what terms the Creek

and Seminole Indians would surrender

their remaining interests in the Okla-

homa lands.

Mr. Vest amended the resolution so

as to include the Cherokee nation in-

quiry.

Mr. Sherman thought this so im-

portant a matter that the resolution and

all amendments that might be offered

should go to the Committee on Indian

Affairs for serious and deliberate con-

sideration.

Mr. Vest offered a substitute for

Mr. Vest's resolution. The substitute

resolves that the President to enter as

quickly as possible into negotiations

with such tribes as may be in posses-

sion of more lands than enough to give

each head of a family 160 acres, with

a view of setting such surplus lands for

actual settlers only. The substitute also

requests the President to act on the

matter as speedily as possible, and to

report to Congress such propositions as

he may receive.

General debate upon questions of In-

dian policy followed, principally be-

cause of Messrs. Vest, Plumb, Conger,

and Ingalls. Finally the resolutions of

Messrs. Vest and Plumb were referred

to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

The Senate, at 2:25 P. M., went into

executive session. At 5 P. M. the

doors were reopened and the Senate

adjourned.

House of Representatives.

Mr. Hurd, as a privileged question,

offered a preamble and resolution re-

specting that certain bills appropriating

money from the Treasury, originating

in the Senate, are now on the Speaker's

table--to-wit, the Blair educational bill

and many others--and that these bills

are in violation of the privileges of the

House to exclusively originate bills for

raising revenue, and directing the Judi-

ciary Committee to inquire into the

violation of the privileges of the House

to originate bills for raising revenue,

and report to the House at any time.

Mr. Hammond inquired whether if

the resolution was adopted the House

could still consider the Blair bill in its

regular order.

The Speaker answered in the affirma-

tive.

Mr. Hurd said that for many years

he had viewed with apprehension the

increasing number of appropriation

bills originating in the Senate. When

confined to matters of personal and lo-

cal interest he had seen fit to inter-

pose an objection, but when the Senate

originated a bill appropriating a hun-

dred million dollars and affecting a

public purpose, the time had arrived

when the question should be determined

whether the Senate possessed the power

which it claimed to exercise.

Mr. Herbert, of Alabama, inquired

where in the Constitution any distinc-

tion could be found between the power

of the Senate to originate bills appro-

priating a specific sum for a specific

purpose and bills appropriating a spec-

ific sum for a general purpose, as in the

case of the Blair bill?

Mr. Hurd denied the power of the

Senate to originate either character of

bills. He believed that the adoption of

the doctrine contended for by the Sen-

ate would be utterly destructive of the

object sought by the founders of the

Government, which object was to give

to the representatives the power over

the people's money. This power was

the most potent of instruments against

the encroachments of the executive

power. Liberty could only be pre-

served by preserving the prerogatives

of all those who were known of none

greater than that of the power over the

people's money by the people's repre-

sentatives. [Applause.]

Mr. Hammond, of Georgia, called at-

tention to the fact that in the Forty-

sixth Congress a similar point had been

raised against the right of the Senate

to originate the bill for the purchase

of original ground for the Bureau of

Engraving and Printing. The question

had been referred to the Judiciary Com-

mittee, and of the committee it was

reported that the committee had decided

that the committee had decided that the

Senate had the right to originate that

bill and all bills of like character. If

the Judiciary Committee of to-day were

polled on the floor he ventured the

assertion that two thirds of its mem-

bers would say that the Senate could

originate an appropriation bill. He

argued that an appropriation bill was

not a bill raising the revenue. Raising

the revenue was bringing up money

from the pockets of the people to the

exchequer of the Government, and the

Constitutional Convention had limited

the prerogative of the House to that

and not to appropriations.

Mr. Dibble, of South Carolina, made

a constitutional argument in support of

the power of the Senate, and pointed

out that in the rules of the House a

distinction was made between bills raising

revenue and bills appropriating money.

Mr. Herbert, of Alabama, viewing

the question in the light of the action

of the Constitutional Convention, con-

tended that the exclusive power to

originate revenue bills did not include

the power to originate appropriation

bills.

Mr. J. S. Wise, of Virginia, thought

that if the propositions advanced by the

Georgia Senator were correct, which

he denied, it would emasculate the

Senate utterly, and ridiculed the

doctrine that money did not become

money until it had been collected and

spent. The great danger which threat-

ened the Government was the ignorance

of people, and to say that the Senate

could not pass a measure to avert dan-

ger was to say that the Senate was not

a coordinate power of the Government.

This privileged question was a direct

attack upon what he conceived to be

the most important measure before

Congress.

Mr. Cox, of North Carolina, while

maintaining the right of the Senate to

originate appropriation bills, spoke a

good word for the Blair educational

bill.

Mr. Willis regarded the resolution as